

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 27, 1999

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 1999

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1999–2000 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1289

Introduced by Assembly Member Davis

February 26, 1999

An act to add Article 8 (commencing with Section 18190) to Chapter 2 of Part 11 of the Education Code, relating to school libraries.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1289, as amended, Davis. School libraries: California School Library Media Teacher Expansion Program.

Under existing law, the governing board of each school district is required to provide school library services for pupils and teachers of the district by establishing and maintaining school libraries or by contractual arrangements with another public agency.

This bill would establish the California School Library Media Teacher Expansion Program, administered by the State Department of Education, to serve as an incentive program to encourage school districts, consortia of school districts, and county offices of education to hire professional library personnel in every public school that can sustain such a program.

The bill would allow a *school* district, a consortium of *school* districts, or a county office of education to apply for funding

for each school district that has one or more schools with a pupil enrollment of 400 or more pupils and in which no credentialed library media teacher or classified ~~credentialed~~ library technician is employed to apply for funding to pay $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{4}$ of the salary and benefits of a credentialed media teacher and $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{4}$ of the salary and benefits of a classified library technician for each eligible school. The bill would prohibit funding for that purpose from exceeding ~~\$50,000~~ \$25,000 annually for each library media teacher and ~~\$20,000~~ \$10,000 for each classified library technician.

The bill would allow a *school* district, a consortium of *school* districts, or a county office of education to apply for funding to each school district that has one or more schools with less than 400 pupils enrolled in a school to apply for funding to hire credentialed library media teachers and classified library technicians that will be employed part time in 2 or more schools with an enrollment of less than 400. The bill would require funding for that purpose to be provided to a *school* district, a consortium of *school* districts, or a county office of education in an amount that constitutes $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{4}$ of the cost of a library media teacher or a classified library technician that is working in more than one school with an enrollment of less than 400 pupils.

The bill would require the State Department of Education to make application forms available to school districts, consortiums of school districts, and county offices of education to be used to provide information to the department concerning the total cost to the district of hiring school library media teachers and classified library technicians and to establish funding priorities. The bill would require the department in establishing funding priorities for credentialed library media teachers to utilize certain criteria, ~~including, among others, that highest priority be give to applicants that have the fewest credentialed library media teachers.~~

The bill would require each school that receives funding under the program to have all teachers in the school participate in staff development that is designed to focus on the planning, delivery, and evaluation of instruction where the library media teacher and classroom teacher are able to

collaborate on the instructional methodologies and means of fully utilizing the library media center.

The bill would become operative, subject to an appropriation to the State Department of Education, for the purposes of the program, in the annual Budget Act.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Article 8 (commencing with Section 18190) is added to Chapter 2 of Part 11 of the Education Code, to read:

Article 8. The California School Library Media Teacher Expansion Program

18190. (a) The Legislature finds and declares the following:

~~(a)~~

(1) California's public schools employ approximately 600 credentialed library media teachers, or one for every 3,193 pupils. The national average is one school library media teacher for every 887 pupils.

~~(b)~~

(2) There is significant research that indicates that a direct relationship exists between pupil access to a school library and a credentialed school library media teacher and pupil success. Studies have also indicated that pupil access to the library media center is significantly greater in schools with a professional school library media teacher than in schools without one.

~~(c)~~

(3) Pupils at schools with a better funded school library media center tend to achieve higher average scores, whether their schools and communities are rich or poor and whether adults in the community are well educated or not.

~~(d)~~

1 (4) A quality library media program has a full-time
2 library media teacher, supported by a classified library
3 technician and has up-to-date library resources. The
4 mission of the school library media program is to ensure
5 that pupils and staff are effective users of ideas and
6 information. The library media program supports the
7 curriculum taught by every classroom teacher by
8 providing resources and instruction beyond the textbook
9 so that both pupils and teachers become independent
10 users of information.

11 ~~(e)~~—

12 (b) Based on the research that has been completed on
13 the value of the school library media teacher, it is the
14 intent of the Legislature that all pupils in the state have
15 the benefit of a credentialed library media teacher. It is
16 the intent of the Legislature that all pupils in the state
17 have the benefit of a credentialed library media teacher
18 who is assisted in the operation of the school library media
19 center by a classified library technician. It is further the
20 intent of the Legislature to provide funding to assist
21 school districts in hiring and maintaining credentialed
22 library media teachers in every school that is large
23 enough to sustain a full-time employee in the position.
24 *Given the number of credentialed library media teachers*
25 *that will need to be hired and the overall cost of*
26 *implementing the program, a school district is*
27 *encouraged to make the most flexible use of school library*
28 *staffing resources in order to meet its most pressing*
29 *needs.* The state's contribution to each individual school
30 should last for no more than three years, which is
31 designed to provide school districts with the lead-time
32 necessary to provide for the costs of having school library
33 professionals on staff on an on-going basis.

34 18192. The California School Library Media Teacher
35 Expansion Program is hereby established to serve as an
36 incentive program of grant awards to encourage school
37 districts to hire professional library personnel in every
38 public school that can sustain such a program. The
39 program shall provide funding for three years to offset
40 ~~one-half~~ *one-fourth* of the cost of the salary and benefits

1 for each credentialed library media teacher and each
2 classified library technician hired pursuant to this article.

3 18193. The California School Library Media Teacher
4 Expansion Program shall be administered by the State
5 Department of Education. School districts, consortia of
6 school districts, and county offices of education that
7 participate in this program shall certify to the
8 department that the funds received through the program
9 will be used to offset the costs of the salary and benefits
10 of each credentialed library media teacher and each
11 classified library technician hired under the program. For
12 purposes of funding under this article, school districts
13 may hire a teacher with a valid California teaching
14 credential who is enrolled in a library media teacher
15 credential program and has applied for an emergency
16 library media teacher permit.

17 18194. (a) A district, a consortium of districts, or a
18 county office of education may apply for funding for each
19 school district that has one or more schools with a pupil
20 enrollment of 400 or more pupils and in which no
21 credentialed library media teacher or classified library
22 technician is employed to pay ~~one-half~~ *one-fourth* of the
23 salary and benefits of a credentialed library media
24 teacher and ~~one-half~~ *one-fourth* of the salary and benefits
25 of a classified library technician for each eligible school.

26 (b) The state will reimburse applicants for ~~one-half~~
27 *one-fourth* of the actual cost of the credentialed library
28 media teacher's salary and benefits, in an amount not to
29 exceed ~~fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) annually~~
30 *twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) annually*.

31 (c) The state shall reimburse applicants for ~~one-half~~
32 *one-fourth* of the actual costs of the classified library
33 technician's salary and benefits, not to exceed ~~twenty~~
34 ~~thousand dollars (\$20,000)~~ *ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)*
35 annually.

36 18195. (a) A *school* district, consortium of *school*
37 districts, or a county office of education may apply for
38 funding under this article for each school district or a
39 consortium of *school* districts that has schools with less
40 than 400 pupils enrolled to hire credentialed library

1 media teachers and classified library technicians that will
2 be employed part time in two or more schools with an
3 enrollment of less than 400.

4 (b) Funding from this article shall be provided to
5 districts, a consortium of districts, or a county office of
6 education in an amount that constitutes ~~one-half~~
7 *one-fourth* of the cost of a library media teacher or a
8 classified library technician that is working in more than
9 one school with an enrollment of less than 400 pupils.

10 18196. (a) The department shall make application
11 forms available to school districts, consortiums of school
12 districts, and county offices of education to be used to
13 provide information to the department concerning the
14 total cost of hiring school library media teachers and
15 classified library technicians and to establish funding
16 priorities. Once an applicant has been approved for
17 funding under this article, no additional applications shall
18 be filed. Funding shall be approved for three years for
19 each credentialed library media teacher and each
20 classified library technician hired. Applicants shall certify
21 that the employee hired under the provisions of this
22 article continues to be employed, in his or her original
23 capacity, during each year of state funding. The
24 department shall provide funding to the district,
25 consortium of districts, or county office of education, if it
26 is selected for participation, based on an amount that does
27 not exceed the amount allowed under subdivision (b) or
28 (c) of Section 18194 or subdivision (b) of Section 18195.
29 Funding shall be available to each participating school
30 district for up to three years for each school library media
31 teacher and classified library technician hired by the
32 district. *Funding received pursuant to this article may*
33 *only be used to supplement, and may not supplant, a*
34 *school district's existing school library staff.*

35 (b) *In applying for funding pursuant to this article, a*
36 *school district is encouraged to make the maximum use*
37 *of both the credentialed library media teacher and*
38 *classified library technician. This may include assigning*
39 *an individual as a district level librarian, full-time*
40 *employee of one school site, full-time employee serving*

1 *part time at multiple schoolsites. A school district is*
2 *encouraged to apply for resources that meet its greatest*
3 *needs.*

4 (c) In establishing funding priorities for credentialed
5 library media teachers, the department shall utilize the
6 following criteria:

7 ~~(1) The number of credentialed library media~~
8 ~~teachers employed by the applicant, with the highest~~
9 ~~priority going to applicants that have the fewest~~
10 ~~credentialed library media teachers.~~

11 ~~(2) Whether or not the credentialed library media~~
12 ~~teachers hired will be full-time or part-time employees,~~
13 ~~with the highest priority going to those applicants that~~
14 ~~hire full-time employees.~~

15 ~~(3) What percentage of the workload of the~~
16 ~~credentialed library media teacher shall be devoted to~~
17 ~~the library media center, with the highest priority going~~
18 ~~to applicants that will be hiring credentialed library~~
19 ~~media teachers that will have 100 percent of their time~~
20 ~~dedicated to the school library media center.~~

21 ~~(4) Priority will be given to those applicants that have~~
22 ~~defined the role of the library media teacher in the~~
23 ~~districtwide school library plan required by Section~~
24 ~~18181.~~

25 *(1) The overall academic needs of the school district*
26 *based on the academic performance index established*
27 *pursuant to Section 52051.*

28 *(2) The commitment the school district has already*
29 *made to library media services.*

30 *(3) The development of the districtwide school library*
31 *plan required pursuant to Section 18181 and the role the*
32 *school library media teacher will play in that plan.*

33 *(4) The percentage of time the credentialed library*
34 *media teacher would devote to the library media center*
35 *in any one school.*

36 18197. Each school that receives funding under this
37 program shall be required to have all teachers in the
38 school participate in staff development that is designed to
39 focus on the planning, delivery, and evaluation of
40 instruction where the library media teacher and the

1 classroom teacher are able to collaborate on instructional
2 methodologies and means of fully utilizing the library
3 media center.

4 18198. (a) For the purposes of this article, “library
5 media teacher” means a classroom teacher who possesses
6 or is in the process of obtaining a library media teacher
7 services credential consistent with Section 44868.

8 (b) For the purposes of this article, “classified library
9 technician” means a noncredentialed individual
10 employed as a classified employee who assists the
11 credentialed library media teacher in the provision of
12 library services consistent with Section 45343.

13 18199. This article shall become operative subject to
14 an appropriation to the State Department of Education
15 for the purposes of this article, in the annual Budget Act.

